

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 SAM-01 SAB-01

EB-07 /093 W

----- 038378

R 121200Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9126

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2781

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF LY SU EG

SUBJ: FONMIN BEARISH ON LIBYAN INITIATIVE

REF: KHARTOUM 2628

1. DURING COURTESY CALL ON FONMIN MANSOUR KHALID DECEMBER 12
I REFERRED MOUNTING PRESS SPECULATION RE POSSIBLE LIBYA/EGYPT/
SUDAN SUMMIT. KHALID REPLIED QUICKLY "DONT BELIEVE WHAT
YOU READ IN THE PAPERS". CHARACTERIZING QADHAFI AS "CRAZY",
KHALID ADMITTED LIBYAN LEADER HAD AGREED MEET SADAT ANYWHERE
BUT INDICATED QADHAFI'S KNOWN UNRELIABILITY SUCH THAT THIS HAD
HARDLY COMMENDED ITSELF TO SADAT. (THIS RECALLS NIMEIRI'S
COMMENT TO ME OF PERSONALITY CLASH BETWEEN THESE TWO LEADERS).

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2. IN APPARENT REFERENCE TO RECENT TOING AND FROING OF SUDANESE ROVING AMBASSADOR NASRI HAMZA (KHARTOUM 2727), KHALID SAID THAT GOS HASHPOINTED OUT TO LIBYANS THAT ANY TOP LEVEL MEETING NEEDS PROPER PREPARATION. THEY HAD SUGGESTED THAT A TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE BE ESTABLISHED TO DO THIS, AND LIBYANS HAD AGREED. HOWEVER, COMMITTEE HAD NOT YET MET AND KHALID WAS BEARISH RE EARLY PROGRESS. HE OPINED NEITHER KHARTOUM NOR CAIRO SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN CLOSE BUREAUCRATIC TIES WITH LIBYA BUT SAID BOTH HAD TO TAKE THIS LINE IN PUBLIC BECAUSE OF "CERTAIN INTERESTS".

3. COMMENT: FONMIN'S REMARKS CONFIRM OUR ASSESSMENT THAT MUCH DISCUSSED LIBYAN RAPPROCHEMENT SO FAR LARGELY PR REPEAT PR EXERCISE. HOWEVER, WE DO BELIEVE NIMEIRI WILL PERSIST, NOT ONLY FOR REASONS PERSONAL PRESTIGE BUT ALSO IN EFFORT DEVELOP SUFFICIENTLY GOOD LIBYAN/SUDANESE STATE-TO-STATE RELATIONS TO OBVIATE FURTHER ACTIVE GOL SUPPORT FOR SUDANESE DISSIDENTS COAGULATED IN TRIPOLI.
BREWER

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NNN

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